

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0002] as follows:

[0002] (Currently Amended) This invention relates to a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition to be used in the ~~production of~~ manufacture of products for hormone replacement therapies.

Please add the following new paragraphs [00016.1] to [00016.3]:

[00016.1] (new) U.S. Patent No. 6,187,323 to Aiache et al. teaches a pharmaceutical composition comprising a gel mixture, which gel mixture comprises at least one oleogel and at least one aqueous gel. Aiache et al. teaches that the oleogel or aqueous gel can act as a reservoir for pharmaceutically active ingredients. Examples of such pharmaceutically active ingredients include beta-oestradiol, progesterone and testosterone. However, such pharmaceutically active ingredients are only taught as being in low concentrations. For example, beta-oestradiol is taught as being in an amount as low as 0.1% by weight, relative to the total weight of the oleogel. Progesterone is taught as being in an amount as low as 1% by weight, relative to the total weight of the aqueous gel. Testosterone is taught as being in an amount as low as 1% by weight, relative to the total weight of the aqueous gel.

[00016.2] (new) U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0175329 to Azarnoff et al. discloses a semi-solid topical pharmaceutical composition comprising a mammalian hormone and a penetration enhancer. Azarnoff et al. teaches the use of a wide variety of hormones, including mammalian sex hormones. Some of the specific sex hormones which are taught in the disclosure include testosterone, estrogen, and progestogen. However, the hormone concentration in these pharmaceutical compositions is also low, namely from about 0.01% by weight.

[00016.3] (new) U.S. Patent Nos. 5,897,539; 5,922,349; 6,083,528; and 6,551,611 to Elliesen et al. are all directed to a dispenser which administers both estrogen and progestogen in separate pharmaceutical compositions. The pharmaceutical compositions are administered

in metered single dosage amounts which can be varied by mechanically modifying the dispenser. Again, the concentration of hormone in the pharmaceutical compositions is low. For example, beta-estradiol is taught as being in only a 2% concentration.

Please add the following new paragraph [00017.1]:

[00017.1] (new) The present inventor has also appreciated the advantage of providing a pharmaceutical composition having a higher concentration of hormone than found in prior art compositions.

Please amend paragraph [00022] as follows:

[00022] (currently amended) In one aspect, the present invention ~~relates to~~ provides a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: ~~from about~~ ~~[[0.6]]~~ 3.5 to about 80% of at least one hormone; and ~~from~~ about 20 to about ~~[[90.4%]]~~ 96.5% of at least one solvent~~[[,]] and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.~~ Preferably, the concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprises about 25.1 to about 80% of said at least one hormone; and about 20 to about 74.9% of said at least one solvent.

Please add the following new paragraphs [00022.1] to [00022.12]:

[00022.1] (new) In the preferred embodiment, the hormone is selected from the group consisting of estradiol, estrone, estriol, testosterone, DHEA, pregnenolone, progesterone, and combinations thereof.

[00022.2] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: about 3.5% to about 100% of at least one hormone selected from the group consisting of estriol, estradiol, and combinations thereof; and about 0 to about 96.5% of at least one solvent.

[00022.3] (new) Preferably, said at least one hormone is a combination of estriol and estradiol in a ratio of 5:5, 6:4, 7:3, 8:2, or 9:1.

[00022.4] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: about 3.5 to about 100% of at least one hormone selected from the group consisting of estriol, estradiol, estrone, and combinations thereof; and about 0 to about 96.5% of at least one solvent.

[00022.5] (new) Preferably, said at least one hormone is a combination of estriol, estradiol, and estrone in a ratio of 5:4:1, 6:3:1, 7:2:1, or 8:1:1.

[00022.6] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: about 6.4 to about 80% of testosterone; and about 20 to about 93.6% of at least one solvent. Preferably, the concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprises about 25.1 to about 80% of said testosterone; and about 20 to about 74.9% of said at least one solvent.

[00022.7] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provide a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: about 10.1 to 90% of progesterone; and about 10 to about 89.9% of at least one solvent. Preferably, the concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprises about 20.1 to about 90% of said progesterone; and about 10 to about 79.9% of said solvent.

[00022.8] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a method for providing a liquid or semi-solid concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: (a) measuring at least one hormone and at least one solvent; (b) combining the ingredients of step (a); and (c) running the mixture of step (b) through a device to decrease the particle size of the composition, wherein the hormone is in a concentration of about 3.5 to about 80%.

[00022.9] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a kit for producing a liquid or semi-solid concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition, comprising: about 3.5 to about 80% of at least one hormone; and about 20 to about 96.5% of at least one solvent, wherein each element of the kit is provided in separated containers, preferably graduated dispensing devices.

[00022.10] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: about 3.5 to about 100% of at least one

hormone selected from the group consisting of estriol, estradiol, and combinations thereof; and wherein the composition is in a powdered form.

[00022.11] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a concentrated pharmaceutical composition comprising: about 6.1 to about 100% of at least one hormone selected from the group consisting of estriol, estradiol, estrone, and combinations thereof; and wherein the composition is in a powdered form.

[00022.12] (new) In another aspect, the present invention provides a method of manufacturing a Bio-identical Hormone Replacement Therapy (BHRT) product, said method comprising: providing the concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition of the present invention, providing a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, combining the concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition and the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier to produce a Bio-identical Hormone Replacement Therapy (BHRT) product having a desired concentration of said at least one hormone.

Please delete paragraphs [00023] to [00033].

Please amend paragraph [00036] as follows:

[00036] (currently amended) The present invention concerns a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: about 3.5 to about 80% of at least one hormone; and about 20 to about 96.5% of at least one solvent[.,] ~~and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein the weight concentration of the at least one hormone in said composition is equal or greater than 0.6%.~~

Please amend paragraph [00052] as follows:

[00052] (currently amended) The present invention also concerns a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: ~~from~~ about ~~[[0.6]]~~ 3.5 to about ~~[[50%]]~~ 100% of at least one hormone selected from the group consisting of estriol, estradiol, and combinations thereof; and ~~from~~ about ~~[[50]]~~ 0 to about ~~[[90.4%]]~~ 96.5% of at least one solvent[.,] ~~and~~

~~optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein the at least one hormone is chosen from estriol, estradiol, or combination thereof.~~

Please amend paragraph [00053] as follows:

[00053] (currently amended) In addition, the present invention concerns a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: ~~from~~ about [[0.6]] 3.5 to about [[50%]] 100% of at least one hormone selected from the group consisting of estriol, estradiol, estrone, and combinations thereof; and ~~from~~ about [[50]] 0 to about [[90.4%]] 96.5% of at least one solvent[[,]] ~~and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein the at least one hormone is chosen from estriol, estradiol, estrone, or combination thereof.~~

Please amend paragraph [00054] as follows:

[00054] (currently amended) Furthermore, the present invention concerns a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: ~~from~~ about [[0.8]] 6.4 to about 80% of at ~~least one hormone~~ testosterone; and ~~from~~ about 20 to about [[90.2%]] 93.6% of at least one solvent[[,]] ~~and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein the at least one hormone is testosterone.~~

Please amend paragraph [00055] as follows:

[00055] (currently amended) The invention also concerns a concentrated hormone pharmaceutical composition comprising: ~~from~~ about [[8]] 10.1 to about 90% of at ~~least one hormone~~ progesterone; and ~~from~~ about 10 to about [[92%]] 89.9% of at least one solvent[[,]] ~~and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein the at least one hormone is progesterone.~~